Change in the funding pattern of UBSP

3231. SHRI P. UPENDRA: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to change the funding pattern of the Urban Basic Services for the Poor Scheme in the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the decision has led to greater uncertainty in the implementation of the scheme; and

(c) what steps Government are taking for effective implementation of the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) and (b) During the VIIth Plan period, the Government intends to implement the scheme of Urban Basic Services for the Poor (UBSP) with the Central Government contributing 60% and the State Governments/UTs contributing 40% of the total expenditure. This position has been clarified to the State Governments/UTs and as such, the question of uncertainty does not arise.

(c) The Government is seeking to effectively monitor the UBSP scheme by taking the following steps :

(i) Encouraging the State Governments/UTs to set up suitable Nodal Agencies/Cells/Committees for monitoring the scheme at the State and District levels;

(ii) By promptly providing clarifications with regard to the Guidelines for implementing the scheme;

(iii) By providing flexibility in the implementation of the scheme through the delegation of operational decision making to neighbourhood development committees of slum dwellers;

(iv) By ararnging regular meetings with the officers of States/ UTs and by undertaking field visits.

Mud Housing Technology

3222. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT is pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that mud housing technology can solve the housing shortage problem;

(b) if so, Governments' reactions thereto;

(c) whether any research is being conducted to improve the low cost construction technology to meet the growing demand for housing; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) The Government is aware that the efficient use of mud is a cost-effective option for house construction.

(b) Institutions like Housing & Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO), National Buildings Organisation (NBO), Central Buildings Research Institute (CBRI), Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi and Building Materials & Technology Promotion Council (BMTPC) in public sector and several voluntary organisations have been promoting mud building technologies in various forms and regions. Government has been extending its support to their efforts through schemes like Research Grants, Building Centres and Experimental housing scheme etc.

(c) Yes, Sir. Central Buildings Research Institute, Structural Engineering Research Centre (SERC), some Regional Research Laboratories of Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and several Non-Government Organisations (NGOs) like Centre for Application of Science & Technology to Rural Areas, Bangalore (ASTRA), Development Alternatives, New Delhi are engaged in research and development of low cost construction technologies including mud technology. To meet the growing demand Government has also setup BMTPC for promoting such proven cost-effective technologies.

(d) In the area of mud housing technology, different R&D groups are working on for improving traditional methods (like Adobe, rammed earth wattle and daub) as well as for developing new techniques which include compacted and stabilised mud blocks, pneumatically rammed earth etc. Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) have formulated specifications for soil based blocks.

Urban Development Project in Maharashtra

3223. SHRI G. PRATHAPA REDDY :
DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of Central Grants for the various Urban Development Projects given to the Maharashtra State during the year 1992-93;

(b) whether Maharashtra Government has spent all the grants or whether any such money has lapsed; and

(c) whether there was any delay in the disbursement of grants ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) and (b) Since Urban Development is a State subject, the Planning Commission requires that all urban development projects should form part of the State plan. However, one time special grant of Rs. 100 crores was sanctioned in 1987 by the Government of India to the Government of Maharashtra for tackling the problems of slums and housing in Bombay. Out of Rs. 100 crores Rs. 88 crores have been released to the State Government. The balance will be released based on its performance and compliance of conditions subject to which the special assistance was granted. In addition, on the recommendation of the Ninth Finance Commission, a one time grant-in-aid of Rs. 50 crores was sanctioned to Government of Maharashtra for slum clearance and environmental improvement of slums and provision of basic amenities in the city of Bombay with the condition that the State Government would also make a matching provision of the same amount for this purpose. Against this, the Ministry of Finance had released Rs. 48.33 crores as Central share with reference to the provision made by the State Government. Recently, an additional Central assistance of Rs. 20 crores has been allocated by the Planning Commission for tackling special problems of Bombay during 92-93 Annual Plan.

(c) No, Sir.

Construction of Memorial in Delhi

3224. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to build a suitable memorial in Delhi in honour of those known and unknown men and women who laid down their lives in fighting communal strife and violance; and

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) and (b) The Ministry of Urban Development has not received any proposal for building such a memorial.

Allocation of Land to Schools and Educational Institutions in Delhi

3225. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU :
SHRI SURESH KALMADI :
SHRI BHUBANESWAR KALITA :

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have evolved a policy to accorded the highest priority for allocation of land to schools and educational institutions in Delhi; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P. K. THUNGON) : (a) No policy has